



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

62 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2011

Volume 61 Number 2

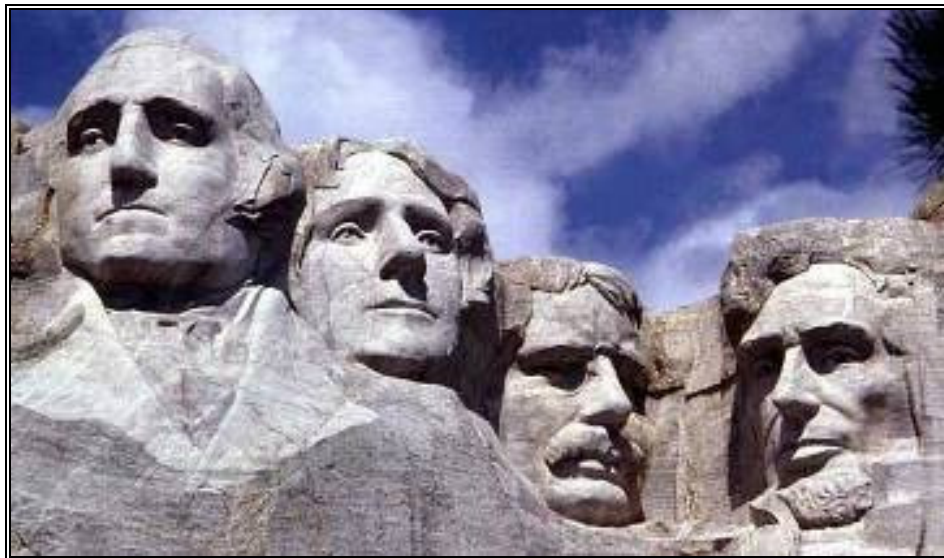
www.phil-mont.org

February 2011

*Valentine's Day is coming,
Spend some Munny on your Hunny!*

*Inside - pictures of Paul W3VVS, from Tom Bohlander
A new / old story by Bob Thomas
& a New Member application ...*

And get out the Flag-



President's Day is Monday the 21st

<i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer. Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225 Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P ng3p@arrl.net 610-630-9862 Labels and mailing: KB3IV Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.		Directors: W3AOK (11) WA3KIO (11) N3XKE (11) KB2ERL (12) W3STW (12) WU3I (12) ND3B (A)	Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV
Committees Archives: NG3P Audit: NS3K Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU Directory: KB3IV		Sunday Morning Net Schedules • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater	
	DX: N3MT Emerg.Coor: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW Membership: N3XKE	Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK	Scholarship: W3RM Skywarn: WX3PHI Sunshine: N3GLU VE Program: NS3K Welcome: N3UBY Youth: N3MT

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**
Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: KB3IV Ed Masarsky 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net
Vice Pres: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net
Sec: KB3MIV Jen Miller 9427 Kirkwood Rd. 1st Fl. Phila 19114 jencaz@verizon.net
Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net
Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

Hello Phil-Mont,

We sure are having a cold winter. I hope everyone is keeping warm from the glow of your vacuum tubes and led's. Make sure your HT's are charged and your mobile rigs are in good working order.

I am pleased to report that our 15th Annual Auction Fest was a rousing success. We were carefully monitoring the weather and traffic reports the evening before and morning of the event. Our crack staff meteorologists said we should go for it, and we had a good turnout of buyers and sellers. The items for sale this year were very attractive to the potential buyers. I heard reports from those who purchased items and they were all favorable. We always want to have happy customers. Both members and non-members donated many of the items at the auction to the club and we were able to add quite a large profit to the scholarship funds. My old and feeble memory tells me that this was the most successful auction to date. Thanks go to Steve, WU3I, and Bill, W3AOK who helped the process proceed without any problems. Steve was in charge of keeping track of and recording the transactions. Bill supplied the wireless mic system, which made my job easier and less stressful. He also was responsible for donating the door prizes. There is one other person I want to thank for his dedication at every club meeting. Thank you Sol, N3UBY. Sol is the man with the "tickets." He is the guy who sells you your winning 50-50 and door prize tickets.

Field Day is five months away. This year we will be using two adjoining sites for our operation.

The Blurb

February 2011

Carmen, KE3QB, was able to secure both site A & B, which means we will have more room to deploy antennas and set up operating positions. In the past there were occasional conflicts on some bands because of the close proximity of antennas. This should alleviate any conflicts. We are looking forward to another enjoyable weekend of some of the things in our hobby that we can't always do at our home stations. Mark your calendars to reserve June 25th & 26th to be at Ft. Washington State Park.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our February 9th meeting and also on our weekly nets.

de Ed, KB3IV

NOTE: Please contact Ed, KB3IV, with any future directory changes or mailing issues.

Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes

February Birthdays

- 01 Charlotte Feierman (XYL K3EUI)
- 03 Barry Feierman K3EUI
- 05 Michael Concordia WB3KAC

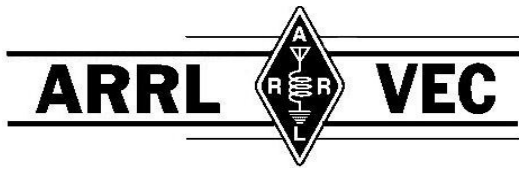
- 10 Sharon Masarsky N3GLU
- 12 Paul Eberwine KB3SYX
- 17 Samuel Smith K3GBA

- 23 Gene Dinardi N3XKE
- 23 Stephen Victor WA2DTW
- 24 Carmen DeCicco KE3QB
- 24 Larry Pollack N3VLC

Membership Stats

At press time PMRC had:

- 81 Full Paid Members
- 10 Family Members
- 4 Youth Members
- 2 Honorary Member
- 1 Pending Member



This month's VE session is the 24th.

As always, many thanks to our VE team !

New member application:

Kent D. Simmons - N3BKR
 74 Meetinghouse Lane
 Springfield, PA 19064-1206
 License Class: Advanced (Exp.2/16/2015)
 Occupation: Sr. Loss Control Rep.
 ARRL Member: Exp. 7/31/11
 Spouse: Mai-Lin
 Occupation: Vocational Eval.

de Dick W3RM

Tom Bohlander shares this about his father Paul, W3VVS

Attached are 2 photos of my father.

The "nov1940_4c" is a picture of my dad in his boarding room in Valparaiso Indiana while he was attending Valparaiso Technical Institute (VTI) for 4 contiguous semesters of radio-related courses. He honed up his code skills real quick with the daily code classes and received his first Amateur license a few months later. In the background is a photo of his wife-to-be 4 years later, my mother Eunice.

The "w8vvs nov1941c" photo shows his first station, all home-brew, in his hometown of Fremont Ohio, after graduation from VTI. He was on the air for about 6 months when this photo was taken and about one month before the order to cease operating due to the attack on Pearl Harbor. The receiver in the middle of the operating desk is a Thordarson All-Star Senior receiver

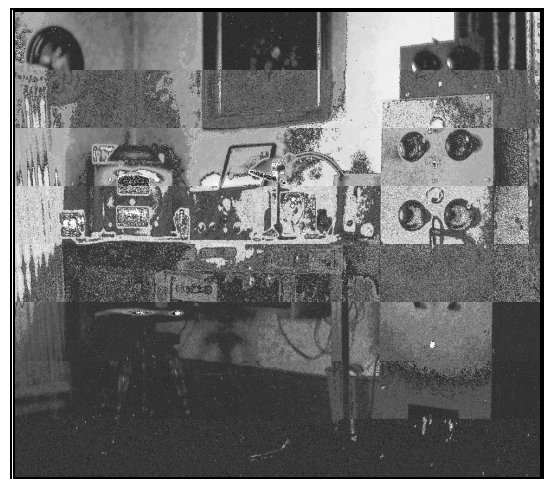
kit, offered in the public domain by a consortium of radio parts manufacturers during the Depression. The

transmitter rack is at the right end of the desk. It is all-wood construction, designed while my father was in high school. The front panel is Masonite. There is a power supply deck at the bottom with a window to see the 866 Junior mercury vapor rectifiers. The modulator deck has a pair of 46's in the output, the exciter deck is a 47 crystal oscillator and a 46 buffer. The final deck is a pair of 6L6GX tubes, upgraded from 46's. There is an antenna tuner on top of the rack.

This was a classic tube line-up and construction technique for that era.



nov1940_4c - at Valparaiso



w8vvs nov1941c- First home brew station

Many thanks to ***Tom WA3KLR***

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

This is a recycled version of an article I wrote fifteen years ago for the Delaware Valley Historical Radio Club newsletter. I'm pretty sure it was never printed in the Blurb but if it was, it probably would be forgotten by now and will be new anyway to members who have joined since then. de Bob NE

WHO IS NEMO?**And where did he go?**

From its inception and through WW-II, ordinary radio broadcasting captured public interest with vibrant first-hand reporting of events *as* they were happening from *where* they were happening. Sports, cultural, political and battlefield events that occurred beyond the confines of cozy studios were transported directly into the homes of an audience that craved the vicarious participation this medium brought them. Of course today we have television "Team Coverage," with idiot field correspondents standing in ocean surf bringing us superficial accounts of trivial events and interviews with drunks at sports bars. Not so with radio remotes; they enabled listeners to "see with their minds" what was happening through colorful, graphic audio reports of Real News.

Remote pickups became such crucial components of radio programming that early broadcasters soon dedicated telephone lines exclusively to handling originations from the field. According to the late Bob Morris, W2LV, veteran employee of NBC, around 1923-24 Westinghouse applied the quite logical term "Remote" to those lines and associated broadcasts. This apparently caused apoplexy among the management of NBC, who were loath to use the same terminology as an arch competitor. So, as befits corporate micromanagement, it was decreed that within the NBC Red Network, programs originating outside the studio and their related facilities would be referred to *only* as (get this) "Wire Telephony as an Adjunct to Radio Broadcasting." This meddling naturally did not sit well with the more practical operators, who immediately began to discuss among themselves

alternatives to the ridiculous legislated terminology. A member of the engineering staff named George Stewart, suggested *Nemo* as NBC's substitute for "Remote." *Nemo* had a quirky appeal to the engineers, who accepted it by acclimation! The new term stuck, and soon began appearing everywhere within NBC – patch panel labels, switcher nomenclature, program logs, and even in high level technical papers. Although initially an industry buzzword, *Nemo* soon became known even to the early broadcast audiences, who were made to feel like "insiders" by the many broadcast fan magazines that covered personalities and inner workings of the business until the early fifties.

It's not clear today what prompted George Stewart (assumed spelling) to suggest *Nemo*. One possibility is the contemporary *Little Nemo In Slumberland* comic strip – the first realistically-drawn cartoon with quality color printing – which chronicled young Nemo's adventures with dragons, monsters and trips to Mars. Another possibility is "Captain Nemo" in Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, certainly a remote if there ever was one. In more recent times various meanings were attached to the NEMO acronym, and Disney/Pixar released the animated film, "Finding Nemo," but they all postdated original NBC terminology.

Nemo remained well understood and widely used as the "in" synonym for a remote broadcast until some years after WW-II. By the late 'fifties, however, its use had begun to decline. Perhaps that was due to a new generation of engineers and operators who were entering the broadcast field, especially television, with no ties to tradition, and a public that no longer cared about what was behind the mike and camera. Certainly at RCA, there was no inclination to employ the term on studio or portable equipment, despite the association with our NBC subsidiary. Oldtimers at NBC continued to use the term until recently, but even there, they have finally reverted to the more rational term "Remote," eschewed so many years ago by earlier white tower executives. About the only place *Nemo* will be encountered today is on the 75-Meter SSB "Nemo Net," an informal gathering of broadcast pioneers. For the most part, however, our old friend *Nemo* has passed from the broadcast scene, gone but not forgotten!

But wait – as the infomercial says –*That's not all.* After initially writing this article in 1996 for a local antique radio club newsletter, I was contacted by fellow Phil-Monter, N3QMH, who was free lancing installation of digital audio studio equipment at several Philadelphia radio stations. Bill said a Broadcast Engineering Airtrak-90 digital console he recently installed came with a sheet of labels for customizing control nomenclature with titles like STUDIO-A, MIC-1, and MASTER, and that two of them were marked *NEMO!*

Maybe our old friend has not completely disappeared after all.

COMMENTS ABOUT NEMO

The following remarks have been received from various sources in response to my Nemo article:

Oh those were the days. Got my 1st Phone, June 1951 and started at WILM ABC in Wilmington same month. We did use "nemo". Remember a pick up at Dela Park, which we fed ABC Radio, one Sat afternoon.

Dick, W3ORU

Wow, I sure learned something new from the latest W3NE article! Even though the term was thought to be forgotten, it shows hope may be around the corner with BE's use of the term! Lost, but certainly not forgotten.

Joe, W3GMS

My Albuquerque friend, Mike Langner, K5MGR, is the recently retired chief engineer for Citadel Broadcasting out here. He has been a radio engineer and sometimes station owner for his entire career. You can see that "Nemo" made it to Albuquerque.

Jim Hanlon, W8KGI [See below]

Hi Jim!

Yep, I ran across Nemo as a legacy term in the early '60's -- after about '62 I never heard the word again, but did come across it in this context in some older books about radio broadcasting. .

Which, I suppose, makes me a part of living history. I think I just aged further!

And yes, we had a patchbay labelled "Nemo!"
Mike, K5MGR

The term "Nemo" is not in the least unfamiliar to me. Some older equipment had the term Nemo engraved upon it. My understanding was that the term still existed on patch boards at Bell Tel. I think our Remler gear had that term and possibly it was used at WFIL when I worked there? Good story.

Charlie, W3CAU

Via W3CAU:

When I worked at WPEN in the 1960s, we had patch panel labels that said NEMO. The station also did a Sunday morning church broadcast with an OP6 and OP7 that was logged as Nemo.

Doug, K3KW

A tip from Steve

To all members there is a great article in QST on pages 70-71. I have written about this in the blurb before. We are all going to call our LAST CQ someday and proper planning on our part will make things better for our families. We do tend to accumulate a lot of stuff as I have seen firsthand in having to do for families what was not planned by the Amateur. Please take the time to read this article and save the 2 pages of this issue for your family. Take the time to inventory your equipment and note its location for your family. Make a very difficult time easier.

de Steve, WU3I

One morning I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How he got in my pajamas I'll never know.

Groucho



Coco & Siggy of the Blurb staff

Also for sale

Kenwood TH-215 2 meter 5 watt HT
 PL decoder installed (this was option when new)
 Speaker Microphone
 Cigarette lighter DC power cord
 Drop in quick charger
 Asking \$75.00

Hustler 2 meter gain antenna G7-144
 OAL 192 inches
 with documentation Asking \$ 10.00

Contact Rick Spencer N3FD

Phone number available in Blurb directory

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member



Wow, where can I get one of these?
 Signed by I.M. Loopey too!

I'll bet no one can identify this ham!



Radio Telephony for Amateurs, by Charles Stuart Ballantine, David McKay Company, 1923.

For Sale

6 foot telephone relay rack on castors,
 Optoelectronics FC-50 frequency counter,
 ARRL handbooks 1933 - onward
 Kreco 10 meter coaxial vertical antenna,
 Antique headphones,
 Multimeters, old technical books and parts.

Contact Tom Bohlander WA3KLR, 215-536-1331

The repeater antennas need some TLC and it ain't gonna be cheap! We're looking for fundraising ideas to replenish the coffers after repairs are made. If you have any brainstorm, or even brainsqualls, please contact any officer or board member. Contact info on page2. Tnx and 73. -ed

As I sit here Blurbing (again) I see great quantities of snow accumulating around headquarters... and I hear thunder off in the distance! Maybe not a unique phenomenon but certainly a strange one.

Well I've had about enough of the fluffy white stuff but the nice thing about our location here is the change of seasons. Just when you get tired of the cold- or heat- it's about time to flip again.

Got a gas fireplace, got a generator. Got a French press coffee maker. Got dogs and cats. PECO can do their best to disrupt our lives but I'm ready for 'em this year! Here's hoping everyone is warm, safe and prepared! -ed

February at PMRC ...

**2nd Wed – Board Meeting
& Groundhog Day!**

6th Sun – K3XS NCS

9th Wed – General Meeting

13th Sun – KB3TEZ NCS

14th Mon – Valentine's Day

20th Sun – KB3IV NCS

21st Mon – President's Day

24th Thurs – VE Test Session

27th Sun – KB3SJS NCS

And don't forget the **ARES** net every
Sunday night at 2100L and the new **Digital
Net** Tuesdays at 1900L, both on W3QV/R

**Check out this rope for your antenna
project –**

**3/32" Braided Olive Drab - Dacron / Polyester
cord**

**This is a high quality braided polyester cord with a
breaking strength of 210 pounds. Proudly Made in
the U.S.A.!**

**This is a gorgeous solid braid perfect for dipole
antennas. Very low stretch and strong. Will
withstand the weather & sun for 7 to 10 years.**

PRICE \$10.00 PER 100 FEET

SOLD IN 100 FOOT LOTS

CONTACT STEVE WU3I AT

WU3I@ARRL.NET

----- . . . - . -

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
310 Saw Mill Lane, Apt 6D, Horsham PA 19044

The Blurb